Cross, George (Rochester Theological Seminary) Nov. 1916

(64)

November 30th, 1916

Professor George Cross, D.D.,

Rochester Theological Seminary,

Rochester, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Cross:

I have been much interested in your letter and can sympathise strongly with you in the position in which you now find yourself, all the more because I have met many Americans who feel even more keenly than you can the ignoble position in which the United States finds herself when the rest of the world is engaged in this cosmic struggle for civilisation. The high-spirited American, as you know better than I do, resents the attitude that has been forced upon him by the selfish man. He must be particularly galled when for some commercial reason or other or to maintain neutrality the United States is drawn into a position of irritating the Allies who are really fighting her battle.

While we are free from these troubles here we have our own. There is a good deal of complaint, of apathy, of unnecessary extravagance, and of slow enlistment, but on the other hand there is a great deal of intense feeling and earnestness along with much profound sorrow. I doubt whether any section of the community has been more hardly hit than the Universities from Atlantic to Pacific. In the University we must have lost nearly 170 and so many of those whom we knew as being among the best. However,

we will carry on and doubtless by and by a change will come.

I will keep in mind what you say to me about being willing to come back across the border. There are, I am afraid, few openings in your particular line. If you do not object I will talk with Gilmour as soon as I see him.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.